



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Flood Control: Sheyenne River, Baldhill Pool Raise, N.D.



Aerial photo of Baldhill Dam and Lake Ashtabula, looking north.

Contact

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Location/Description

Baldhill Dam is located in southeastern North Dakota along the Sheyenne River, approximately 12 miles north of Valley City. Baldhill Dam was originally constructed in 1950 as a multipurpose project for water supply, pollution abatement, and flood control. The Baldhill Pool Raise project consists of: replacing the existing spillway gates; allowing the dam to store up to five feet more water in the reservoir during major floods; the acquisition of 1,500 acres of flowage easement around Lake Ashtabula and 300 acres for a mitigation area; raising lands and buildings at the Wesley Acres Church Camp; and construction of several small levees and placement of fill near structures around the reservoir. The pool would be raised only during floods, providing a significant reduction in flood damages to downstream communities such as Valley City. The project will result in no permanent increase in the storage of water behind Baldhill Dam.

Status

The Design Memorandum for the project, dated November 1998 and revised June 1999, was approved in July 1999. A Project Cooperation Agreement between the Corps and the project sponsor was signed on May 31, 2000. This agreement defines the cost-sharing responsibilities between the Corps and the sponsor. The first construction contract, for replacement of the existing spillway gates, was awarded on August 23, 2000. Construction of the project is scheduled for completion in 2003.

Project Sponsor

The project sponsor is the Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource District (SRJWRD), which is composed of representatives from seven water resource districts along the Sheyenne River. The SRJWRD is comprised of representatives of the following Water Resource Districts: Southeast Cass, Barnes County, Griggs County, Nelson County, Ransom County, Richland County, and Steele County.

Authority

The project is authorized by Section 401 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, based upon the plan contained in the General Reevaluation and Environmental Impact Statement, dated August 1982, revised January 1984. The Baldhill Pool Raise is part of the Sheyenne River project, which also includes the Horace to West Fargo and West Fargo projects, which were completed in 1992 and 1994 respectively.

Fiscal

The following table summarizes the project cost:

Federal Cost	\$6,975,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$2,325,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$9,300,000